(b) whether the said amount was deducted from the salaries of their employees as contemplated under the Income Tax Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the details of the head from which the said amount was withdrawn for deposit and what is the rationale behind?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) No tax was deposited by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., on account of shares disinvested by the Government, in favour of the employees during the year 1994-95.

Progress in the Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline Project

4619. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline Project;

(b) what was its original estimated cost and what is its present revised cost; when the work was started and how much expenditure has so far been incurred on it;

(c) what are the reasons for the slow progress in the execution of the project; and

(d) by when it is likely to be completed and at what cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Government had, on 10-8-93, approved the proposal of IOC for the Revised Cost Estimates of Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline of Rs. 2391.84 crores (FE component of Rs. 891.30 crores) against the original cost estimates amounting to Rs. 917.55 crores (FE component of Rs. 204.54 crores) approved on 29-8-90. The revised mechanical completion schedule is 21 months from the date of Government's approval of Revised Cost Estimates.

The main work on the project started in August, 1993 and the overall physical progress by the end of March, 1995 was 61.80 per cent and the expenditure incurred was, approximately, Rs. 1169.32 crores including FE component of Rs. 444.25 crores upto March 1995.

The reasons for the slow progress in execution of the project are slow progress in Detailed Design and Engineering, delay in procurement of indigenous materials, and delay in mobilisation and slow progress of main line and station construction etc.

The entire project is expected to be mechanically completed by November, 1995 and is expected to be within the approved Revised Cost Estimates.

पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की मांग

4620. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वर्तमान मूल्यों के आधार पर देश में 1997 तक पैट्रोलियम उत्पादों के आयात बिल की राशि 20,000 करोड़ रु० तक हो जाने की संभावना है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की मांग की वार्षिक